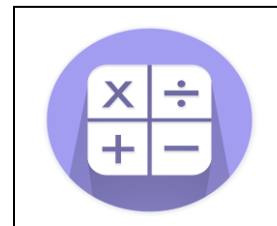


Amsterdam School Title 1 Newsletter October/November 2023



Math Fact Fluency

I'm sure you've heard your child's teacher talk about math fact fluency, but.....

What Is It?

Math fact fluency is the ability to recall the answers to basic math facts automatically and without hesitation.

Why Is It SO Important?

The automaticity in math facts is fundamental to success in many areas of higher mathematics. Without the ability to retrieve facts automatically, students are likely to experience frustration as they perform more complex tasks. The added processing demands resulting from inefficient methods such as counting (vs. direct retrieval) often lead to errors. Accurate and efficient retrieval of basic math facts is critical to a student's success in mathematics. Research published by The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) states that students who cannot retrieve basic facts easily get lost and often cannot follow the logic of an explanation given by the teacher or a peer when the problems are embedded within more complex mathematic operations, such as simple algebra or long division.

How Can You Help Your Child?

As they say, "Practice makes perfect!". 15 minutes a day, 4 days a week should be sufficient for most children. The typical progression of skills are addition, subtraction(K-2), multiplication and division(3-6). A good speed goal for automatic recall of facts when responding orally is 30 correct per minute—2 seconds per fact. There are many ways to practice math fact fluency: flashcards, worksheets, computer games, as well as APPs on a phone or tablet. No matter what you choose to do, make it FUN!

Dates to Remember

October 19-20

NO SCHOOL

October 27

Halloween Carnival

October 31

End of 1st Quarter

November 9th

Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:00-8:00 pm

November 10th

NO SCHOOL, Parent Teacher Conferences

November 22-24

NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break



Math Fact Fluency Websites

www.xtramath.org (free sign-up): many languages available

www.abcvia.com (Math Facts Basketball)

www.brainpop.com

www.mathfactlab.com

www.varsitytutors.com/aplusmath

www.mathplayground.com

Tips for student & parent success during a school year:

- **Make learning their job**
- **Set goals**
- **Provide child with an adequate homework environment**
- **Stress reading comprehension**
- **Encourage children to try and figure things out on their own before asking for help**
- **Communicate positively & often with teachers**
- **Actively visit the school website**
- **Take attendance seriously**
- **Talk about school at home**